



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING – County of Santa Cruz
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

JULY 18, 2024 ♦ 3:00 PM-5:00 PM

SHERIFF'S OFFICE – COMMUNITY ROOM
5200 SOQUEL AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

Xaloc Cabanes Chair 1 st District	Valerie Webb Member 2 nd District	Michael Neidig Co-Chair 3 rd District	Antonio Rivas Member 4 th District	Jennifer Wells Kaupp Member 5 th District
Laura Chatham Member 1 st District	Dean Shoji Kashino Member 2 nd District	Hugh McCormick Member 3 rd District	Celeste Gutierrez Member 4 th District	Jeffrey Arlt Secretary 5 th District

Felipe Hernandez Board of Supervisor Member	
Tiffany Cantrell-Warren Director, County Behavioral Health	Karen Kern Deputy Director, County Behavioral Health
Stella Peuse – Youth Representative	

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING PARTICIPATION IN THE
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

The public may attend the meeting at the Sheriff's Office, 5200 Soquel Avenue, Community Room, Santa Cruz. This location does not have the technology to allow participants to join virtually. This is an in-person meeting only.

If you are a person with a special need, or if interpreting services (English/Spanish or sign language) are needed, please call 454-4611 (Hearing Impaired TDD/TTY: 711) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting in order to make arrangements. Persons with disabilities may request a copy of the agenda in an alternative format.

Si usted es una persona con una discapacidad o necesita servicios de interpretación (inglés/español o Lenguaje de señas), por favor llame al (831) 454-4611 (Personas con Discapacidad Auditiva TDD/TTY: 711) con 72 horas de anticipación a la junta para hacer arreglos. Personas con discapacidades pueden pedir una copia de la agenda en una forma alternativa.

MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA

ID	Time	3:00 Regular Business
1	15 Min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll Call • Public Comment (No action or discussion will be undertaken today on any item raised during Public Comment period except that Mental Health Board Members may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed. Limited to 3 minutes each) • Board Member Announcements • <i>Approval of June 20, 2024 minutes*</i> • Secretary's Report
		3:15 Standing Reports
2	5 Min	June Patients' Rights Report – George Carvalho, Patients' Rights Advocate for Advocacy, Inc.
3	25 Min	Behavioral Health Report - Tiffany Cantrell-Warren, Behavioral Health Director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Public Comment: Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan Andrea Turnbull, Behavioral Health Program Manager
4	20 Min	Crisis Now Academy Update – Jeffrey Arlt and Antonio Rivas
		4:05 New Agenda Items
5	40 Min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vote on letter requesting the Board of Supervisors to direct the BH Dept to work with Police Dept to reduce the traumatic way the Raids (“sweeps”) are conducted on the unhoused folks*</i> • <i>Vote on the updated Santa Cruz County Code 2.104*</i>
		4:45 Future Agenda Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation regarding the Mass Incarceration Ballot Initiative
		5:00 Adjourn

*Italicized items with * indicate action items for board approval.*

NEXT MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING IS ON:

AUGUST 15, 2024 ♦ 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

**1400 EMELINE AVENUE, CONFERENCE ROOMS 206-207
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060**

MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD RETREAT IS ON:

AUGUST 16, 2024 ♦ 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

**1400 EMELINE AVENUE, CONFERENCE ROOMS 206-207
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060**



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

MINUTES – Draft

MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

JUNE 20, 2024 ♦ 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
1400 EMELINE, ROOMS 206-207, SANTA CRUZ
Microsoft Teams (831) 454-2222, Conference ID 151 711 224#

Present: Antonio Rivas, Celeste Gutierrez, Dean Kashino, Hugh McCormick, Jeffrey Artl, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Laura Chatham, Michael Neidig, Xaloc Cabanes
Absent: Valerie Webb, Supervisor Hernandez, Stella Peuse
Staff: Tiffany Cantrell-Warren, Jane Batoon-Kurovski

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- I. Roll Call – Quorum present. Meeting called to order at 3:04p.m. by Chair Xaloc Cabanes.
 - II. Public Comments
 - Richard Lewis - stated he is a community organizer and mentioned the one block idea which is one block, one neighborhood taking on mental health and building on what exists.
 - Laura Tucker – stated her personal story and feels there is a lack of access to mental health care, particularly schematic therapy which means that the person does not have to share all the trauma that they have been through but instead learning modalities that help their body to calm down.
 - Robert Norris – works with HUFF (Homeless United for Friendship & Freedom). Concerned with the issue of folks getting sent out of county, held for 5150 against their will, and then facing forced meds, forced treatment in other jurisdictions. Needs to know stats of how frequently this happens.
 - Richard Gallo – stated that Cal Voices met with DHCS regarding Peer Support/Peer Services as part of the legislation related to Prop 1, and they went ahead and excluded everything related to peers. He stated that the State has acknowledged they have heard concerns about the peer workers being excluded. Richard will send a letter on what was proposed and what they excluded.
 - Tyler Starkman – commented on individuals needing 5150's being turned down from Telecare and having to go elsewhere outside of the county to get the correct care. He stated that statistics aren't being recorded, they are full and do not provide the care needed to individuals in this county and they have to go to Santa Clara County to get the right care even though it wasn't against their will to be sent over there, but they still ended up being 5150.
 - Coral Brune – worked at MHCAN and is associated with HUFF. She stated she is interested in the relationship and all the connections between police, mental health, and the agencies. She said since the sweeps on the levy, there have been more cases of people taking over the whole sidewalk and has seen violent tendencies with people over medicated.
 - III. Board Member Announcements
 - The Chair clarified that the MHAB is appointed by the BOS and their role is to get information and advise the BOS. The MHAB does not make policies, programs and does not have funding to encourage different policies. The MHAB doesn't have the ability to enforce anything.

IV. Business / Action Items

A. Approve May 16, 2024 Minutes.

Motion/Second: Mike Neidig / Dean Kashino

Ayes: Antonio Rivas, Celeste Gutierrez, Dean Kashino, Hugh McCormick, Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Laura Chatham, Michael Neidig, Xaloc Cabanes

Nays: None

Motion passed.

B. Accept the letter of recommendation in support of Congressional Bill HR 8575 the Michelle Alyssa Go Act.

Motion/Second: Celeste Gutierrez / Antonio Rivas

Ayes: Antonio Rivas, Celeste Gutierrez, Dean Kashino, Hugh McCormick, Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Laura Chatham, Michael Neidig, Xaloc Cabanes

Nays: None

Motion passed.

V. Reports

A. Secretary's Report

- Reminder to board members to send training information as outlined previously.
- No attendance issues.

VI. Standing Reports

A. May Patients' Rights Report – George Carvalho, Patients' Rights Advocate

The May report was provided. George did not attend the meeting.

B. Behavioral Health Director's Report – Tiffany Cantrell-Warren, Director of Behavioral Health

- Update on the 24/7/365 mobile crisis response - the expected expansion with Family Services Agency (FSA) was pushed back because of insurance issues. The new date to expand covering swing shift through FSA is July 15th, and night shift (12am to 8am) will start August 5th. The expansion of the County BH team to provide additional coverage 7 days/week, 8am-6pm starts August 5th.
- Clarification on Pacific Clinics staffing – scaled back staffing due to the demand for those services. The demand for the past year has been one youth every two days needing 5585- hold. This decreases in the summer due to less stressors so chairs are not being filled. Pacific Clinics is back up to adequate staffing.
- Clarification on staff engagement with people experiencing homelessness before a sweep – BH is not always notified that a sweep is going to happen. If a local law enforcement agency chooses to notify BH ahead of time, then it gives BH an opportunity to go out to speak with folks and connect them to other resources. BH partners up and goes out with a team from Housing for Health, which is the HUD funded homeless continuum of care that can plug folks into the coordinated entry system to be able to access temporary or longer-term housing. BH staff does not participate with law enforcement agents in the sweeps as they want to engage folks and try to get them into services or into housing before the sweep.

C. Crisis Now Academy Update – update to be provided at the next meeting.

VII. New Agenda Items

A. Discussion on requesting the BOS to direct the BH Department to work with Police Department to reduce the traumatic way the Raids (sweeps) are conducted on unhoused folks

- Athena - shared a summary of the problem with the board. She stated that people don't have anywhere to go, so they camp out somewhere. A lot of people are on the edge of getting housing, so there is a constant survival fight or flight to make it through the day and people end up all over the county. She stated that the violence from the police departments has increased over the last two months exponentially and the city police across the cities follow completely different policies and are not sticking to the policy that the federal and state law mandates. Athena said the issue is there isn't accountability.

- Troy – shared his personal story.
- Laura Tucker – stated that people without the resources are being left to fend for themselves until they get housing. She said it doesn't make sense to not provide emergency services for people and access to mental health before they get housing. She believes there needs to be more money for services and less money for desk jobs and better training and action for those desk jobs. Laura said her concern is there isn't an understanding of what the people are experiencing and what they need.
- Robert Norris – suggested asking for information from staff or from other parts of the county, the role the deputies play in the sweeps, get the stats on how often deputies are involved in the last few months in these sweeps.

- Laura volunteered to write a letter for the MHAB to review and discuss at the next meeting.

- C. Confirmation of Retreat – Friday, August 16, 2024, 9am-2pm
- D. Vote on the updated Santa Cruz County Code 2.104 – postponed to next month.
- E. Discuss and vote on letter of recommendation in support of Congressional Bill HR8575 the Michelle Alyssa Go Act – see Section IV.B for voting results.

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Summary

This is a June 2024, Patients' Rights Advocate Report from the Patients' Rights Advocacy program. It includes the following: telephone calls, reports, and emails. It includes a breakdown of the number of certified clients, the number of hearings, and the number of contested hearings. It also includes a breakdown of Reise Hearing activity, including the number of Riese Hearings filed, the number of Riese conducted, and the number that were lost.

Patients' Rights Advocate Report

June 2024

7th Avenue Center

On June 19, 2024, this writer received an SOC report of resident-to-resident abuse. The staff person at the facility reported that one resident grabbed the other from behind while walking down the hallway. This writer interviewed both individuals involved in the incident. The reported victim declined to press charges and did not add to the narrative of the report. Both people are still at the facility without further animosity.

On June 21, 2024, this writer received a call from a resident with a complaint against his conservator and public defender. According to the client he had been promised immediate release once he reached the 4th level of the 7th Avenue Center. This writer obtained verbal permission and phone numbers for the following: conservator, probation officer, and public defender. After 5 calls to the public guardian's office, I was able to speak to the officer of the day. This writer was informed that the client needed to remain on level to determine how he would do with added responsibilities and privileges. The client has already contacted the public defender and was told that he would be eligible for a hearing in three months. The client and I will speak again about this matter in October.

On June 24, 2024, this writer received an SOC report of resident-to-resident abuse. The alleged perpetrator struck another resident on the side of the face and needed intramuscular administration of medication after assaulting staff. This writer contacted Mr. Burke to review the incident and review medication policies and reviewed the treatment orders all of which followed title nine regulations. As of this writing I have not been able to contact either person but will continue to reach out to both people. (This note will be carried forward to July 2024 for continuing action)

On June 27, 2024, this writer received a phone message from a resident of the 7th Avenue Center. She reported that she had been stabbed by two knives and that staff are not responding to her medical needs. This writer received permission to speak with her mental health worker. This writer placed a call to the mental worker and advocated for her to be seen by a medical professional. The mental heal worker told me that she would schedule an appointment but was not able to tell me when that appointment would occur. This writer will continue to monitor the situation and remain in contact with the client. This work is to be continued through next month.

Telecare

On June 18, 2024, while on the Telecare PHF, a client approached me with questions about the next steps in the legal process. He didn't know his legal status. I received permission to look up this information. I returned and communicated that he was now on a fourteen-day

hold and informed him about his rights about the hearing process and possible outcomes. The client did not want to file a writ at the time of our conversation but chose to go forward with the Certification Review Hearing.

**June 2024
Fourth Quarter**

1. TOTAL NUMBER CERTIFIED	16
2. TOTAL NUMBER OF HEARINGS	14
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF CONTESTED HEARINGS	4
4. NO CONTEST PROBABLE CAUSE	10
5. CONTESTED NO PROBABLE CAUSE	1
6. VOLUNTARY BEFORE CERTIFICATION HEARING	
7. DISCHARGED BEFORE HEARING	2
8. WRITS	
9. CONTESTED PROBABLE CAUSE	3
10. NON-REGULARLY SCHEDULED HEARINGS	

*One hearing uncontested but released due to facility error

Ombudsman Program & Patient Advocate Program shared 0 clients in this month (shared = skilled nursing resident (dementia) sent to behavioral health unit or mental health client placed in skilled at Telecare (Santa Cruz Psychiatric Health Facility)

Reise Hearings. /Capacity Hearings

Total number of Reise petitions filed by the Telecare treating psychiatrist: 1

Total number of Reise Hearings conducted: 1

Total number of Reise Hearings lost: 1

Total number of Reise Hearings won: 0

Total number of Reise Hearings withdrawn: 0

Hours spent on conducted hearing representation: .75 hours

House spent on all Reise hearings: Reise appeal: 0

Respectfully: Davi Schill PRA, George Carvalho, PRA

Re: Letter to recommend the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Take Immediate Action to STOP Active Harm Done to Homeless People and their Personal Property by Police

To: Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors

The Santa Cruz Mental Health Advisory Board strongly recommends that the Board of Supervisors take Immediate Action to help our unsheltered population:

1. Direct the County Behavioral Health Department to work with the Parks and Recreation throughout the county to redesign and establish a health and safety focused Street Cleaning Encampment Protocol that is trauma sensitive and follows state law requiring the storage and later retrieval of taken property for 90 days.
2. Decrease cost by decreasing the number of Police units at Encampment Clean Ups. This is an issue of Public Health not criminal. More than 3 armed officers is unnecessary, threatening, and expensive.

California Civil Code § 2080 et seq. imposes mandatory statutory duties on public entities and their employees and agents to maintain for a minimum of 90 days unattended property over which they have taken charge. Police departments are not storing the items taken during encampment cleanups. Police assisted street cleaning commonly referred to as “sweeps,” takes place across the county. Survival equipment and valuable personal items are thrown into Parks and Recreation dump truck vehicles never to be seen again. This is unlawful and unacceptable.

The daily police and sheriff altercations and destruction of people's property is a self-sustaining cycle that perpetuates the harmful circumstances and trauma disorders of the homeless people. Witnesses report that the police do not listen to the houseless people's pleas for visible specific survival items. Police can be heard threatening arrest throughout the process making people feel criminalized and terrified. Witnesses report recently watching the Police throw away a 40lb bag of dog food as the dog owner begged to be able to take it with her. Seizure and destruction of medicine is common and can be life threatening.

Without a destination to move to- it is impossible for the people with shelter to move all of their items off the street. Tents, bedding, tarps, food, clothing, shoes, water bottles, backpacks, chargers, phones, cleaning supplies, bikes, mobility aids, medicine, propane tanks, portable batteries, coolers, laptops, art materials, family memorabilia, pet food. These items are hard to acquire and are the most basic tools needed to survive. The cycles of property seizure and destruction make it impossible for people without shelter to manage the sort of stability required to keep in touch with employment/family/doctors, develop routine, sleep, eat, and ultimately survive when they are living without shelter and everything they own is destroyed... over and over. Police and Sheriffs have been emboldened to take homeless people's property without consequences, with or without warning, and at any time of day or night. Night sweeps are especially traumatizing. This is a major accountability issue.

One group that is especially at risk of property destruction are the many folks with physical disabilities that inhibit their ability to move all of their belongings before a short notice street

cleaning. In Santa Cruz, there is a community of people who were living on Coral St. Homeless Persons Health Project (HHP) is located at the Housing Matters Shelter on Coral St; it is vital for disabled houseless folks to live close by in order to access live saving services. The 3 weeks of daily sweeps of Coral St. starting June 3rd were predated by a city eviction notice of only 5 days. With physical disabilities even two weeks is often not enough. Five days is horrific. Forcing disabled homeless people to move off of Coral Street is short sighted and harmful. Many people with illness or chronic conditions will likely miss appointments and postpone care due to a much harder distance to travel to access HHP or the showers at Housing Matters. This ultimately increases the severity of their conditions and keeps them unhoused for longer.

The violent language from police and the traumatic shock of losing all one's items affect the most vulnerable, increasing symptoms of PTSD and panic disorders. It is well documented that veterans in this population are especially likely to suffer from these conditions. Venous stasis (swollen legs and feet) is associated with long term homelessness and is one of many disabilities which make moving quickly during the sweeps, as demanded, a near impossibility.

Supporters of the police removal of camps cite spreading disease as a main concern. HIV, lung diseases, skin infections as well as mental health issues inflict this demographic in higher numbers than the general population, but this is exactly why forced relocation is so dangerous. Forcing them further away from the resources offered by HHP as well as forced relocation increasing spread of contagions seems to be in complete opposition to the stated health concerns of the county. We need to prioritize public health.

In this county alone we have witnessed the loss of homes to fires and floods and we do not know when an earthquake may cause more loss. In addition the economic downturn especially in the local tech industries, plus the exorbitant cost of reasonable housing in this area- this should give us pause to consider that no one is immune to the shadow of losing their home. We suggest that a more compassionate and sustainable plan will not only help the homeless now but could build an infrastructure of resources and support that we may one day need ourselves.

Santa Cruz does not exist in a bubble. We could be a beacon of light and humanity! We can create a method of street cleaning that actually works long term and treats people with dignity. Trash, disease control, nature preservation, safety- these are important for the housed and unhoused residents of this county, we can work with the residents to maintain a clean environment long term. Of the 174 camps removed by the LAPD last year, virtually every one has returned without change and at the cost of the city. This method of Police action against Encampments is not working. The homeless crisis has national attention and here in Santa Cruz we have an opportunity to lead the way in community organized street cleaning. To do that, we have to build more accountable practices that bring solutions rather than exacerbate the problems of our citizens at a high cost to the county.

No one with better options would choose to live on concrete without shelter. Police enforced strict deadline street cleaning equipped with trash trucks and bulldozers is an unacceptable traumatizing punishment for the crime of surviving on the street. It is inhumane

to destroy their equipment. It is illegal to not store their items. It is wasteful that the city pays people to destroy some of the materials the city itself sometimes even bought and donated to those very homeless people recently. These people have no better option and still need supplies the next day, as they gather, lose, and regather the means to live, the landfill grows. The cycle is brutal as the same people witness the destruction and seizure of their property sometimes even multiple times a week especially in the summer.

Undeniably the Parks and Recreation teams deserve and require support to maintain trash removal and walkability all over the County. We must work together to navigate a new solution that works with the people living on the streets who have no place else to go. We suggest that the Parks and Recreation, the Sheriff, and all the Police Departments work with the County Behavioral Health Department and local homeless advocacy services to establish a method to keep our city clean and healthy by prioritizing those most at risk of health problems, including majority senior citizens and many veterans, by ensuring that people without housing can keep their life saving resources and maintain a cleaner environment.

Re: Letter to recommend the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Take Immediate Action to STOP Active Harm Done to Homeless People by Police and Sherrif Sweeps and Property destruction

To: Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors

The Santa Cruz Mental Health Advisory Board strongly recommends that the Board of Supervisors take Immediate Action to help our homeless population by

1. Directing the County Behavioral Health Department to work with the Parks and Recreation Departments throughout the county to redesign and establish a health and safety focused Street Cleaning Encampment Protocol that is trauma sensitive and follows state law requiring the storage and later retrieval of taken property for 90 days.
2. Decrease cost by decreasing the number of Police units at Encampment Clean Ups. This is an issue of Public Health, not criminal. More than 3 armed officers is unnecessary, threatening, and expensive.

California Civil Code § 2080 et seq. imposes mandatory statutory duties on public entities and their employees and agents to maintain for a minimum of 90 days unattended property over which they have taken charge.

Police departments are not storing the items taken during encampment cleanups. Police assisted street cleaning commonly referred to as "sweeps," takes place across the county. Survival equipment and valuable personal items are thrown into Parks and Recreation dump truck vehicles never to be seen again. This is unlawful and unacceptable.

The daily police and sheriff altercations and destruction of people's property is a self-sustaining cycle that perpetuates the harmful circumstances and trauma disorders of the homeless people. Witnesses report that the police do not listen to the homeless people's pleas for visible specific survival items. Police can be heard threatening arrest throughout the process making people feel criminalized and terrified. Witnesses report recently watching the Police throw away a 40lb bag of dog food as the dog owner begged to be able to take it with her. Seizure and destruction of medicine is common and can be life threatening.

One way to comply with the law is to not take the property in the first place. This would also be cheaper.

The public health goals of the camp cleanup programs are not being met. We think it can be done better, cheaper and get closer to solving the problem.

Studies of sweeps found that of the 174 camps removed by the LAPD last year, everyone has returned. The solution that is being employed is not solving the problem. The city has put fences around public parks that keep everybody out.

The violent language and shock of the sweeps affect the most vulnerable in an already vulnerable population, increasing symptoms of PTSD and panic disorders. It is well documented that Veterans in this population are especially likely to suffer from these conditions.

The daily sweeps of Coral St. starting June 3rd were predated by a city eviction notice of only 5 days. With physical disabilities even two weeks is often not enough. Five days is horrific.

Forcing disabled homeless people to move off of Coral Street is short sighted and harmful. Many people with illness or chronic conditions will likely miss appointments and postpone care due to a much further distance to travel to access Homeless Persons Health Project (HPHP) or the showers at Housing Matters. This ultimately can increase the severity of their conditions and keeps them unhoused and dependent on county funded nonprofit services longer.

Supporters of the police removal of the camps, cite spreading disease as a main concern. HIV, lung diseases, skin infections as well as mental health issues afflict this demographic in higher numbers than the general population. This is why forced migration is so dangerous. Forcing people to move further away from the resources offered by HPHP can increase spread of contagious diseases and seems to be in complete opposition to the stated health concerns of the county. We need to prioritize public health.

Tents, bedding, tarps, food, clothing, shoes, water bottles, backpacks, chargers, phones, cleaning supplies, bikes, mobility aids, medicine, propane tanks, portable batteries, coolers, laptops, art materials, family memorabilia, pet food. Some of these items are hard to acquire and some are the most basic tools needed to get out of survival camps and off of assistance programs.

The cycles of property seizure and destruction makes it extremely difficult for homeless people to maintain the stability required to keep in touch with employment/family/doctors, develop routines, sleep, eat, and ultimately survive when living without shelter and everything is destroyed... over and over.

In this county alone we have witnessed the loss of homes to fires and floods and we do not know when an earthquake may cause more loss. In addition, the economic downturn especially in the local tech industries, plus the exorbitant cost of reasonable housing in this area- this should give us pause to consider that no one is immune to losing their home. About 15,000 people are becoming homeless each week in the US now. We suggest that a more compassionate and sustainable plan will not only help homeless people now, but could build a better infrastructure of resources and support.

This method of Police action against Encampments is not working. With national attention on the homeless crisis, here in Santa Cruz County we have an opportunity to implement solutions that work. Current practices are not bringing solutions- they are exacerbating the problem.

Undeniably there is a need for safety, trash removal, and walkability all over the County. Let us all work together to navigate a new solution that prioritizes health and allocates funding to help not punish homeless people, including senior citizens and veterans.

Thank you.
Sincerely

Mass Incarceration Ballot Initiative

A New Proposed Ballot Initiative Offers No Treatment, Only Punishment

Background

- There is a proposed ballot initiative gathering signatures right now that threatens to make Californians less safe.
- The Mass Incarceration Ballot Initiative was crafted by the same people responsible for California's 1994 "three strikes and you're out."¹
- Despite "treatment" references in the measure, the new initiative is the same cocktail of punishment, prison, jail, and mandatory minimum sentences that put California on a path to mass incarceration decades ago.

Impacts of the Proposed Initiative

Over the next 10 years, the proposed initiative would

- Provide no new funding for drug treatment or homelessness prevention.
- Take \$750 million from the state's most successful drug treatment and homelessness prevention programs
- Take \$300 million away from services for survivors of crime
- Defund school-based prevention programs by more than \$10 million.²

Over the next 10 years, the initiative would result in

- 1.5 million more jail admissions
- 100,000+ more prison admissions
- \$26 billion more spent on prisons³
- \$10 billion more spent on jails
- \$13 billion more in court costs.⁴
- The proposal would overwhelmingly impact poor Californians of color.

Policy Summary of the Proposed Initiative

- Limit judicial discretion with new mandatory minimum sentences.
- Require long, mandatory prison terms for people who possess any substance that unbeknownst to them contains fentanyl, a common contaminant in many illicit drugs.
- Require police to book people in jail regardless of whether they pose a risk to public safety.
- The proposal says they will fund court-ordered interventions through Proposition 47 savings but the increases in incarceration will eliminate these savings if they continue to be calculated under their current rules.

¹ Thomas Hiltachk, the sponsor, served as legal counsel for the 1994 "Three Strikes" Proposition 184. https://ballotpedia.org/Thomas_W._Hiltachk.

² These estimates are based on average annual savings from Proposition 47 from FY2021-FY2025.

³ These estimates are based on average annual savings from Proposition 47 from FY2021-FY2025.

⁴ These figures are calculated from cost estimates as discussed here.